



COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE

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Fact Sheet: Taji, Iraq

Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) at Taji

- Taji, or “Camp Taji,” is an Iraqi military base approximately 20 miles northwest of Baghdad. Taji is a primary installation for the Iraqi Army, Iraqi Air Force, and Iraqi National Guard, who hosted the Coalition on the ~38 square kilometer base.
- Due to ISF confidence and success in assuming 100 percent of the training at Taji, the Coalition has concluded its training and advising presence at the base. The ISF now has full responsibility for the facilities and programs at Taji, and continues to use the site to lead and conduct independent training.
- Iraqi instructors have taken the future of their soldiers’ training into their own hands, ensuring a self-sufficient and professional force — capable of taking the fight to Daesh remnants in Iraq.
- ISF forces at Camp Taji conduct independent operations to defeat Daesh remnants in Iraq. They conduct near-daily missions to protect Iraqi sovereignty, and find and eliminate ISIS terrorist criminals in the country. The Coalition continues to provide operational planning, intelligence and aviation support when requested.
- ISF soldiers and units trained at Taji were an essential component of the Iraqi Army’s 2017 liberation of Mosul, and their success was displayed during 2019’s “Will of Victory” and 2020’s “Heroes of Iraq” campaigns to clear Daesh remnants from multiple provinces.

History

- From 2014 to 2020, CJTF-OIR and NATO partners provided training and military advice to their Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) partners in their fight against ISIS from Taji, covering a wide variety of topics and specializations. Most importantly, the Coalition established a system at Taji for the Iraqis to train themselves.
- “Task Group Taji,” consisting of Australian and New Zealand Defence Forces, led efforts on behalf of the international Defeat-Daesh Coalition at the Building Partner Capability (BPC) site on Taji. More than 47,000 ISF members learned operational skills including planning and conducting operations, ground maneuver, combat medicine, and integration of intelligence into operations – with the goal of enabling the ISF to take the fight to Daesh and protect their country’s sovereignty.
 - The Iraqi School of Infantry Non-Commissioned Officers, the local partner of Australia, became the first Coalition centralized training facility to achieve independent operating capability in November 2019. All training and instruction at the school is now conducted by Iraqi instructors to Iraqi students.
 - Australian and New Zealand forces also oversaw the Iraqi Ranger training program, including sniper and rifle marksmanship, counter IED, medical, mortars and communications.
- The British Army also conducted significant training programs at Taji. Weapons ranges, improvised explosive devices and patrolling skills were all on the training program, but arguably the British soldiers’ biggest contribution was the gift of training the trainers. Upon the U.K.’s departure in June 2020, they transitioned the NATO-led training mission to 100% Iraqi control.
- Launched in 2018, NATO Mission – Iraq (NMI) personnel conducted non-combat advising, training and capacity-building missions at Taji. Instructors from Spain, Canada, Netherlands, Poland and other nations conducted “train-the-trainers” programs, enabling Iraqi personnel to provide future training independently. Some of the NMI programs supported by CJTF-OIR at

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Taji included:

- Military Electrical and Mechanical Engineering School
 - Military Engineering School
 - Military Intelligence and Security School
 - Military Medical School
 - Military Signals School; and
 - Non Commissioned Officers Academy
 - School of Administration and Logistics
 - Transportation School
- The Coalition operates in Iraq at the invitation of the Government of Iraq. The Coalition's military movements are conducted in coordination with the Government of Iraq.

Departing Units

- Taji has historically held up to 2,000 Coalition members, with the majority departing over the summer of 2020. Major elements included:
- CJTF-OIR military advisers and trainers from: United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Poland
- Spanish helicopter battalion "Task Force Toro"
- NATO Mission – Iraq advisers and trainers from: Canada, Poland, United Kingdom, Turkey, Finland, Italy, Hungary, Germany, Netherlands
- U.S. Army:
 - 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, Minnesota National Guard;
 - 1st Theater Sustainment Command human resources, finance, logistics, maintenance and transportation personnel; advisers to the Iraqi Army logistics and transportation corps;
 - 168th Military Police Battalion, Tennessee National Guard, base operations and base defense;
 - 25th Infantry Division and 82nd Airborne Division security and base defense forces;
 - 401st Army Field Support Brigade contracting specialists;
 - 42nd Regional Support Group, New Jersey National Guard base operations;
 - U.S. Army Central horizontal construction engineers;
 - 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command;
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers "Task Force Essayons" technical advisors;
 - U.S. Army Special Operations Forces.
- U.S. Air Force: U.S. Air Force Central air advisors, maintainers, airfield operations, and weather team.
- U.S. Marine Corps: Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force – Crisis Response Central Command: Unmanned Aerial Surveillance protection team and airfield repair engineers

Base Population

- Historically ~ 2000 military personnel
- August 2020 ~ 300 military personnel



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Equipment and Property Transferred at Taji

Excess Property ~\$10M

- Air conditioners, refrigerators, office furniture
- Asphalted roads
- Dining facility, gym facility and associated equipment
- Latrine and shower trailers
- Modular aircraft shelters
- Relocatable buildings and containerized housing units
- Sand and concrete bunkers and force protection walls
- Shipping containers
- Sun shades, concrete pads, gravel site prep

Historic Construction and Base Improvements ~\$13M

- Airfield Apron and Runway Renovations: \$5.9M, with final projects concluding August 2020
- Barracks / Housing / Office Buildings: \$1.1M
- Combined Joint Operations Center: \$500K
- Incinerators: \$700K
- Network / Information Technology: \$3M
- Office Park / Shared Use Facility: \$500K
- Redistribution Property Assistance Team facility: \$1.5M
- Supply Support Activity: \$650K

2020 Counter ISIS Train and Equip Fund at Taji ~ \$324M

- Class II Clothing And Equipment Items: \$35M
- Class IV Construction Materials: \$9M
- Class V Ammunition: \$15M
- Class VII Major End Items (vehicles & weapons): \$218M
- Class VIII Medical Supplies: \$14M
- Class IX Repair Parts and Components: \$34M
- The CTEF program receives, transports, and divests equipment fielding packages to vetted training units and operational units of the Iraqi Security Forces.
- Since the U.S. Congress created the program, the CTEF program has provided aid to the Republic of Iraq through over 200,000 pieces of rolling stock or equipment, vehicles, weapon systems, organizational clothing and individual equipment, and over 90 million rounds of ammunition to over 190,000 Iraqi soldiers.



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High Resolution Imagery

- CJTF-OIR: Task Group Taji marks significant capability milestone <https://www.dvidshub.net/image/5923418/school-infantry-noncommissioned-officer-ii-final-operating-capability-ceremony>
- CJTF-OIR Feature Story: Chaplain assists with memorial sites at Taji: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/376624/honoring-fallen-chaplains-account-preserving-memorials>
- CJTF-OIR Training Highlights at Taji (Video): <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/764376/taji-training-highlights-coalition-transfers-camp-taji-iraqi-security-forces>
- CJTF-OIR Photo Highlights at Taji: <https://www.dvidshub.net/image/6324859/coalition-transfers-camp-taji-iraqi-security-forces>
- CJTF-OIR Ceremony Photos, Aug. 23, 2020: <https://twitter.com/CJTFOIR> & <https://twitter.com/OIRSpox>

Additional Information

- British Ministry of Defence: Daesh's demise - Op. Inherent Resolve <https://medium.com/voices-of-the-armed-forces/daeshs-demise-op-inherent-resolve-9336e9853bc9>
- Australian Department of Defence: Task Group Taji a success <https://www.minister.defence.gov.au/minister/lreynolds/media-releases/task-group-taji-success>
- New Zealand Ministry of Defence: New Zealand defence personnel conclude mission at Taji <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/new-zealand-defence-personnel-conclude-mission-taji>
- U.S. Central Command: Iraqi Ranger Training <https://www.centcom.mil/MEDIA/NEWS-ARTICLES/News-Article-View/Article/1066032/coalition-leaders-review-iraqi-ranger-training-at-camp-taji/>
- NATO Mission – Iraq: Graduation of the first basic instructor course led by Iraqi military medical school personnel <https://ifcnaples.nato.int/nmi/news-room/news/2019/graduation-of-the-first-basic-instructor-course-led-by-iraqi-military-medical-school-personnel>